

Expanding Housing for Survivors of Human Trafficking

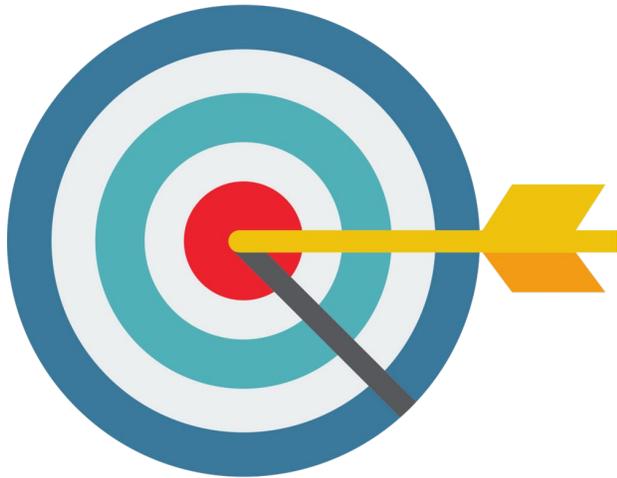
Rebecca Amado-Sprigg (she/her/ella)

Amy Nguyen (she/her/hers)

Laura Ramirez Salgado (they/them/theirs)

Cast

Objectives



- Who is Cast?
- Scope and Root Causes of Human Trafficking
- Link between Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking
- Overview of Cast's Programs
- Best Practices for Identifying and Serving Trafficking Survivors in Housing
- Workshop Activity

Who is CAST?

Working to put an end to human trafficking through comprehensive, life-transforming services to survivors and a platform to advocate for groundbreaking policies and legislation.



Emergency Response



Legal



Social Services



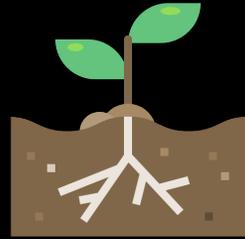
Survivor Leadership



Policy Advocacy



Training and Technical Assistance



Root Causes of Human Trafficking

***If 'human trafficking is the
criminal expression of political
and economic
disenfranchisement,' then...***

***Housing is
a form of human
trafficking prevention.***

Human Trafficking Defined

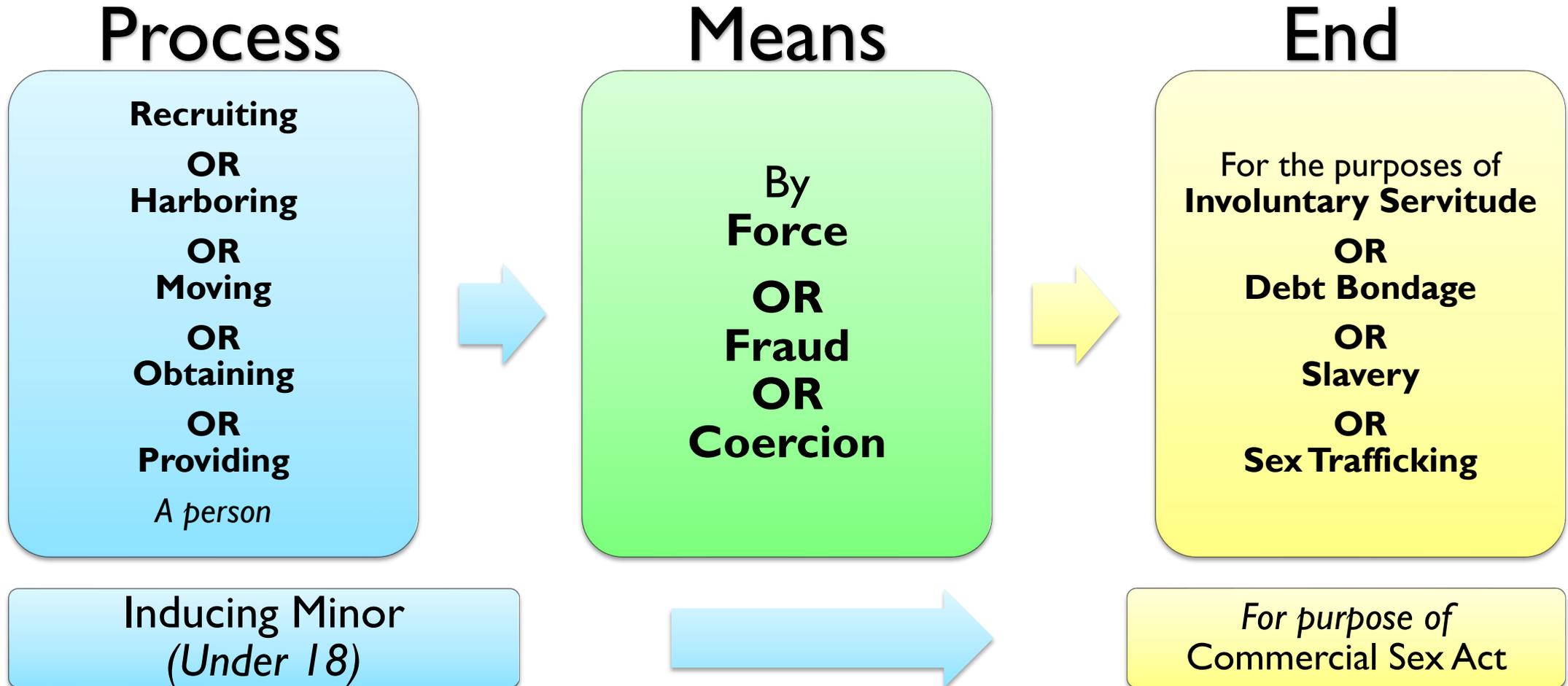
(Victims of Trafficking and
Violence Prevention Act of
2000)

The term “severe form of trafficking in persons” means:

(A) sex trafficking in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age; or

(B) the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services, through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery.

3 Elements of Trafficking

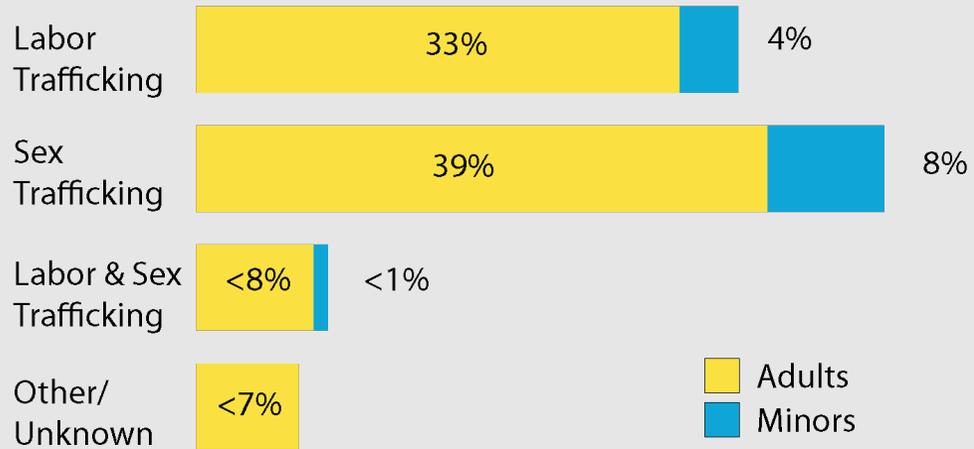




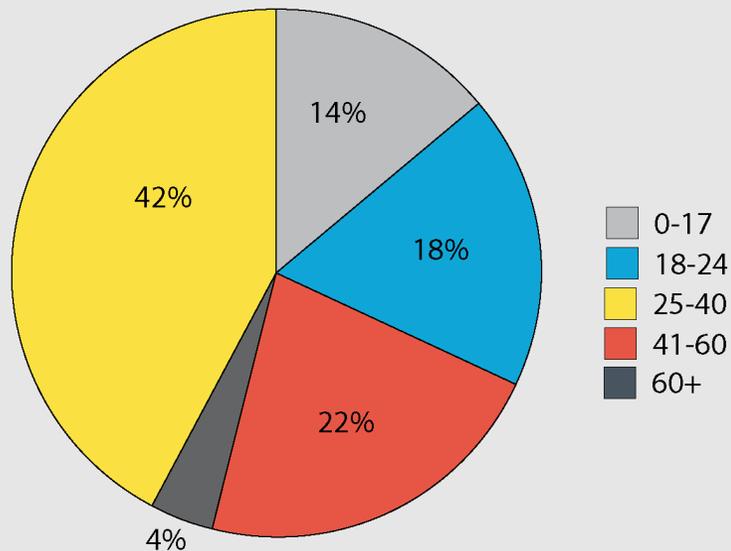
**What percentage
of cases at Cast
are sex
trafficking, labor
trafficking, or
both?**

Snapshot of victims accessing services

Type of Trafficking



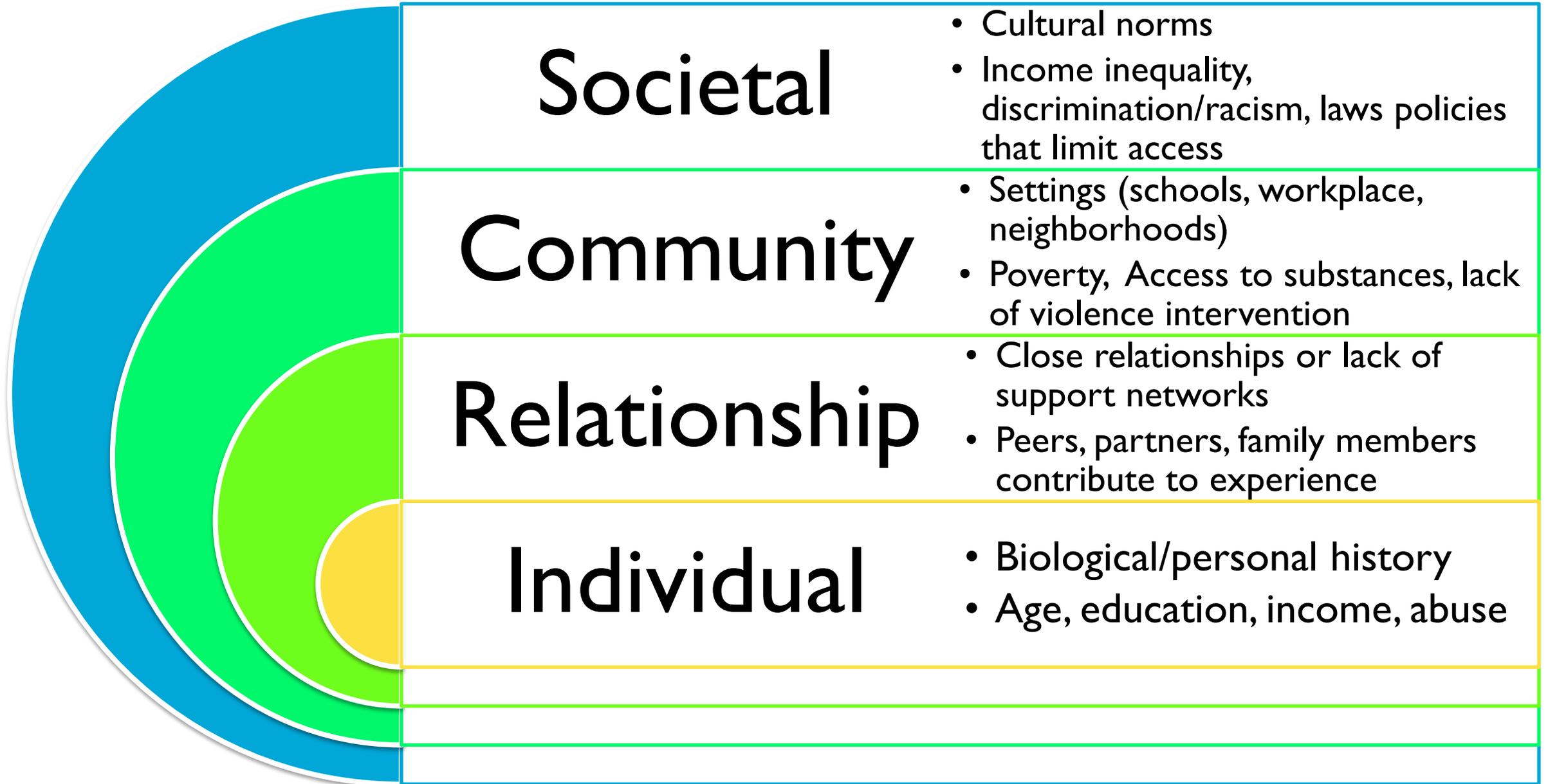
Age of Trafficking Survivors



[Freedom Network 2020 Member Report](#)

Moving Away from HT Statistics

[“Unpacking the Numbers” - Greater New Orleans Human Trafficking Task Force](#)



Where Does Trafficking Occur?

Anywhere someone can be exploited



Who Are Traffickers?

Anyone – individuals, professionals, recruiters, intimate partners, known persons to the victims, or strangers



True or False?

1. **Human Trafficking requires crossing a border.**
2. **Survivors can consent to being trafficked.**
3. **In order for trafficking to occur, a survivor cannot receive money.**

Common Misconceptions

Requires crossing borders

Can consent to being trafficked

Can't be paid for work

Involves only US citizens or only immigrants

Same as smuggling, sex work or labor exploitation



The Link Between Domestic Violence and Trafficking

“Human trafficking and domestic violence don’t occur in silos – rather, there is a marked overlap in the pattern of behaviors that both abusers and traffickers use to exert power and control over a victim”

– National Network to End Domestic Violence





Cast's Housing Program

Hummingbird Haven Emergency Shelter

Accommodates 15 beds to female identifying survivors

Short term emergency housing program (30-90 days)

Comprehensive wrap around services including in house therapist

Life Skills Workshops

Home Environment



Mariposa Haven Transitional Shelter

Accommodates 12 beds to female identifying survivors

Longer term transitional housing program (up to 2 years)

Comprehensive wrap around services including in house therapist

Life Skills Workshops

Voluntary Savings Program

Home Environment



Rapid Rehousing Program

Move in and rental assistance

Relationship building with landlords

Housing Navigation

In home Case Management Services

Landlord/Tenant Support



Cast Housing Services Stats

88%

of survivors were experiencing homelessness when they called our hotline

100%

of survivors had safe and stable housing when they graduated from Cast

91%

of survivors staying at Cast's emergency shelter were BIPOC

Laura's Journey



Learning from Housing Graduates

- **Listening to survivors** is critical for service referrals and case plans
 - Many HT survivors first ask for services from housing agencies and govt agencies and may be discouraged from not having their trafficking experience understood
 - HT-specific programs and services could help
- **Social support** needs to be part of case management plans, as part of current services and outside of services, as part of social support systems
 - Many survivors face stigma after their trafficking experience

Why didn't you
just leave?
- A Service
Provider

Learning from Housing Graduates

- Contact with **law enforcement agencies** may be re-traumatizing
- **Services for survivors' children** may be needed
- **Economic support** – financial assistance, financial planning, and support on education and employment costs – helps a survivor maintain housing
- Many survivors struggle with their **mental health** (e.g. PTSD, bipolar disorder, depression)
- Many survivors are distrustful of others when they first escape their trafficking, and **recreational activities** help restore trust in others
- **Housing case management should cover the whole healing process**, including mental health, social support, and coping skills, along with recreational activities

Housing Considerations for HT Survivors



When looking for shelter and permanent housing, survivors often need to avoid multiple areas, including areas where the traffickers frequent and sites of exploitation and residence



Trafficking is a violation of individual labor rights – many survivors do not have a source of income upon escaping



Many survivors cannot return to their families, out of fear of traffickers threatening their families or due to the trafficker being a family member

Strategies for Identification

Incorporate simple questions into your intake process for potential survivors (particularly survivors of labor trafficking)

Build partnerships with agencies that serve survivors of human trafficking

Encourage human trafficking training for staff

Develop a protocol for referring identified survivors of human trafficking to appropriate agencies

Distribute information about how to recognize and report human trafficking in your community

Strategies for Housing Programming

Ensure language accessibility for services (especially for foreign national survivors)

Review client rules/protocols for shelters and consider how this may replicate control tactics from traffickers

Design workshops that are specific to HT survivors

Build in social support systems into case management goals (particularly for foreign national survivors)

Allow for more time for housing navigation

Cast

888-539-2373

- 24/7
- Los Angeles County
- Assists survivors, service providers, and community members reporting tips
- <https://castla.org>

**NATIONAL
HUMAN
TRAFFICKING
HOTLINE**

888-373-7888

- National
- Find service providers in your area
- The toll-free hotline is available to answer calls from anywhere in the country, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, every day of the year in more than 200 languages.
- <https://humantraffickinghotline.org>



**What is one thing
from today's
presentation that
you will bring
back to your
agency?**

THANK
YOU!



Rebecca Amado-Sprigg
(*she/her/ella*)

Associate Director of
Equitable Housing

rebecca@castla.org

Amy Nguyen
(*she/her/ella*)

Director of Empowerment
Programs

amy@castla.org